

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (original) A discharge lamp, comprising:

- a sealed lamp vessel (3, 4) having a vessel wall (22) enclosing a discharge space (24) in which an ionisable filling is present, wherein the lamp vessel (3, 4) has two extended plugs (23); and
  - two electrodes (40, 60), wherein one part of each electrode (40, 60) extends in an aperture (50, 70) in a respective plug (23), wherein another part of each electrode (40, 60) extends in the discharge space (24), and wherein each electrode (40, 60) comprises a slip part (43, 63) having a conical outer surface (44, 64);  
wherein an inner surface (51, 71) of the aperture (50, 70) fits closely on the conical outer surface (44, 64) of the slip part (43, 63) of the electrode (40, 60);  
and wherein slip between the inner surface (51, 71) of the aperture (50, 70) and the conical outer surface (44, 64) of the slip part (43, 63) of the electrode (40, 60) is allowed.

2. (original) A discharge lamp according to claim 1, wherein the electrode (40, 60) comprises a base part (41, 61) and the slip part forming an intermediate part (43, 63) having the conical outer

surface (44, 64), wherein the base part (41, 61) is connected to the intermediate part (43, 63), at a side where the diameter of the intermediate part (43, 63) is the smallest, and wherein only the base part (41, 61) is fixed to the plug (23).

3. (original) A discharge lamp according to claim 2, wherein the base part (41, 61) of the electrode (40, 60) has a cylindrical outer surface (44, 64).

4. (currently amended) A discharge lamp according to claim 2—or 3, wherein bonding between the outer surface (64) of the electrode (60) and the inner surface (71) of the aperture (70) is realized by means of a glass sleeve (80) of which an inner surface (81) fits closely on the outer surface (64) of the base part (61) of the electrode (60), and of which an outer surface (82) fits closely on the inner surface (71) of the aperture (70).

5. (currently amended) A discharge lamp according to claim 2—or 3, wherein the aperture (50, 70) in the plug (23) comprises a conical section (52, 72) having a conical inner surface (51, 71) for receiving the intermediate part (43, 63) of the electrode (40, 60), and a cylindrical section (53, 73) having a cylindrical inner

surface (51, 71) for receiving the base part (41, 61) of the electrode (40, 60).

6. (currently amended) A discharge lamp according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the electrode (40, 60) comprises a top part (42, 62) and an intermediate part (43, 63) having a conical outer surface (44, 64), wherein the top part (42, 62) is connected to the intermediate part (43, 63) of the electrode (40, 60), at a side where the diameter of the intermediate part (43, 63) is the largest.

7. (original) A discharge lamp according to claim 6, wherein the top part (42, 62) has a cylindrical outer surface (44, 64).